

09/351,199

REMARKSREMARKS

This responsive amendment follows the relevant paragraphs of the office action to enable ease of understanding. A listing of the claims is provided as required in the new USPTO amendment practice per 37 CFR 1.121.

Drawings

The office action further states, "1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

In response applicant respectfully states that formal drawing will be provided when the application is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The office action further states, "3. Claims 1-2,23-24 and 31-32, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by US. Pat. No. 6,456,340, Margulis, hereinafter '340.

5. Claims 15-16, 19,22,24, and 33-34, are rejected under 35 D.S.c. 103(a) as being unpatentable over '340, as applied to claims 1-2,23-24, and 31-32 above.

"6. As to claims 15-16, 19,22,24, and 33-34, they distinguish over the rejected claims by reciting a computer usable medium, and a computer program product.

The office action further states, "7. The examiner takes official notice of both the motive and modification needed to embody the invention of '340 on a computer usable medium or a program product. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of '340 by placing it on a computer readable medium, or program product, because all computer implemented methods must be entered into the computer to be of use. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification because, one of ordinary skill would have realized that all programs must be in a format that allows it to be read into a computer, and that by placing it on a medium a manufacturer would have a convenient means of distributing his product/program. This is notoriously well known in the data processing art and is a convention for the distribution of computer programs.

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In response applicant respectfully indicate their disagreement with the 'official notice' in the office action. However, in order to bring the application to allowance quickly, claims 15-16, 19, 22-24 and 33-34 are amended in a way that overcomes the 'official notice' as indicated below.

Allowable Subject Matter

The office action further states, "8. Claims 3-14, 17-18, 20-21, 25-30, and 35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response applicant respectfully states that the claims were amended employing the allowable subject matter to overcome all the rejections and objections as follows;

- (1) Since claim 3 is objected to, Claim 1 is amended to have the limitations of claim 2 and 3.
- (2) Claims 2 and 3 are canceled herein.
- (3) Allowable, dependent claim 4 is amended to be an independent claim having the limitations of original claim 1, from which is depended.
- (4) Claim 8 is amended to depend on amended claim 1.
- (5) Since claim 17 is objected to, claim 15 is amended to have the limitations of claims 16 and 17.
- (6) Claims 16 and 17 are canceled herewith.
- (7) Claim 22 is amended to have the additional limitation added to claim 1.
- (8) Since claim 25 is objected to, claim 23 is amended to have the limitations of claims 24 and 25.
- (9) Claims 24 and 25 are canceled herewith.
- (10) Claim 31 is amended to include the limitation of "extracting a watermark from the realigned image."
- (11) Claim 33 is amended to have the limitation of "extracting a watermark from the realigned image."
- (12) Claim 34 is amended to depend upon amended claim 33.

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These amendment take care of all the rejections and objections of the office action bringing claims 1, 4-15, 18-35 to allowance, and favorable action is respectfully solicited. In the unlikely event that any claim remains rejected, please contact the undersigned by phone in order to discuss the application.

Please charge any fee necessary to enter this paper to deposit account 09-0468.

Respectfully submitted,

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